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SUBJECT: GERMANY H1N1 FLU UPDATE: SPIKE IN H1N1 INFECTIONS,
470 CONFIRMED CASES

REF: A) Berlin 795, B) Berlin 783 and previous.

¶1. (SBU) SUMMARY: The number of H1N1 infections in Germany rose by 41 cases to a total of 470 on July 2. Germany's airports take different precautions to keep the virus from spreading. END SUMMARY.

¶2. (SBU) On July 2, the National Reference Center for Influenza at RKI announced in its press briefing forty-one new laboratory-confirmed cases of H1N1 for Germany. This increases the total number of confirmed virus cases in Germany to 470. New cases were distributed among the federal states as follows: North Rhine Westphalia (22), Baden-Wuerttemberg (4), Saxony (4), Lower-Saxony (3), Bavaria (3), Schleswig-Holstein (2), Hesse (1), Saxony-Anhalt (1) and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (1).

¶3. (SBU) North Rhine-Westphalia received a spike in cases with 22 new confirmed infections and remains the state showing the highest number of virus cases among all German states with a total of 219, followed by Baden-Wuerttemberg (69) and Bavaria (62 cases). The Federal State of Saarland remains the only state without confirmed virus cases. Over half of all confirmed infections in Germany resulted from domestic transmission. To date, this number sits at a total of 272.

Precautionary Measures at German Airports differ

¶4. (SBU) Transport Ministry officials confirmed July 2 media reports that Germany's airports take different precautions to keep the virus from spreading. Airports in Germany fall under the authority of the state, not the federal government. State authorities decide on appropriate surveillance procedures for each individual airport. According to the media, Duesseldorf airport maintains a high level of precautions, while Frankfurt has slightly reduced its measures. In Frankfurt, medical personal will enter an airplane only if the cabin crew reports a sick passenger.

